



Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT CARD

Education Update for Orange County Schools

June 2000

Grants and federal funding

Dear school administrators, faculty, staff, parents and students:

As we enter the home stretch of the 1999-2000 school year, I know that plans for next year are well underway. During my visits to local schools, educators have expressed their frustration over a lack of resources. However, I have also heard so many good things about the benefits of existing funding. I am always impressed by the way public schools turn limited funds into quality programs.

Our schools must have access to resources that will help you create successful learning environments, and educators should not have to pay for learning materials out of their own pockets. An adequate investment in our schools is essential to preparing our children for the world they will face.

The House is currently considering devastating legislation that would cut \$2.9 billion from the proposed 2001 education budget. This bill fails to fund facilities, class size reduction, teacher training, Title I and many other crucial education initiatives. I will fight this plan to reduce our investment in our children.

While Congress debates next year's funding, schools and districts can take advantage of current funding opportunities available at the federal level. Enclosed you will find information on the U.S. Department of Education and its grant programs, including Internet addresses and phone numbers you can use to obtain further information and additional resources.

A note about grant applications: I am happy to provide letters of recommendation to accompany grant applications. Just call my Garden Grove office. I can also help track applications already in the consideration process, a helpful way to break through the red tape. In the event that a grant application is not approved, I can help gather information about ways to strengthen the proposal for the next round.

I have been privileged to meet with so many local school officials, teachers and students during my work in Congress, and look forward to continuing my school visits and our work together. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you.

Very truly yours,

Loretta Sanchez

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

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Current funding opportunities June 2000

Below are short summaries of some funding sources available from the Department of Education. Complete information can be found online at the department's Grants and Contacts page, <http://gcs.ed.gov>. CFDA numbers refer to listings in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

- # Special education – technical assistance and information to improve services and results for children with disabilities and their families. CFDA No. 84.326J. Application deadline: July 17, 2000.
- # Arts in education — grants to support media literacy projects, studying images transmitted through the electronic media. CFDA No. 84.926B. Application deadline: July 21, 2000.
- # Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers — RRTC's provide resources for individuals with disabilities and their providers, parents, family members, guardians and advocates. CFDA No. 84.133B. Application deadline: July 17, 2000.
- # GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) — Grants to encourage more young people to have high expectations and stay in school, helping them prepare for and attend college. CFDA No. 84.334. Application deadline: June 26, 2000.
- # Smaller Learning Communities – Grants to support small, safe and successful learning environments in large high schools to increase student achievement and well-being. CFDA No. 84.215L. Application deadline: July 17, 2000.
- # Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – Grants available for a variety of purposes under IDEA. CFDA Nos. 84.320s series. Application deadlines: June 2000, dates vary.
- # Comprehensive School Reform – For research and evaluation of reform strategies aimed at increasing student achievement. CFDA No. 84.306S. Application deadline: June 22, 2000.

